

Notice of Exemption**- 1 -****To:**

Office of Planning and Research
 For U.S. Mail:
 P.O. Box 3044
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
 Bay Delta Region
 2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100
 Fairfield, CA 94534

**Street Address:**

1400 Tenth Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: 2021 Emergency Drought Salinity Barrier Project (Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2021-041-03)

Project Location: The project is located at West False River, a tributary to the San Joaquin River, in the County of Contra Costa, State of California; Latitude 38.057057 N, Longitude 121.670432 W; Assessor's Parcel Number 027-010-005-0.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Incidental Take Permit number 2081-2021-041-03, pursuant Fish and Game Code § 2081 (b); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 783.2-783.8 to the California Department of Water Resources.

In 2021, the lack of precipitation within California, recent warm temperatures and extremely dry soils have depleted the expected runoff water from the Sierra-Cascade snowpack and has again caused a potential for water supplies to be insufficient to repel salinity in the Delta. In an Emergency Proclamation issued May 10, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom directed Permittee to take actions, if necessary, to implement plans that address potential Delta salinity issues, including, among other things, the installation and removal of emergency drought salinity barriers. As a response, the California Department of Water Resources proposes to install (by July 1, 2022) and remove (by November 30, 2022) one temporary rock barrier weir structure, which will span West False River, and installation of two water quality and/or flow monitoring stations.

Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Water Resources

Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemption. California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 21080(b)(3) and 15269(a), Governor's Proclamation of State of Emergency, May 10, 2021

Categorical Exemption.

Reasons why project is exempt: In an Emergency Proclamation issued May 10, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom directed Permittee to take actions, if necessary, to implement plans that address potential Delta salinity issues, including, among other things, the installation and removal of emergency drought salinity barriers. Paragraph 11 of the Proclamation suspended CEQA for purposes of carrying out this directive and other specified directives, stating specifically that this suspension applies to any actions taken by state agencies, as well as for any necessary permits or approvals required to complete these actions.

CDFW Contact Person: Monica Oey, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist); (707) 428-2088.

DocuSigned by:
 Signature: Gregg Erickson
 BE74D4C93C004EA...

Date: 6/2/2021

Gregg Erickson, Regional Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____